

Sen. Ervin Asks Bar To Fight for Privacy

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Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D., N.C.) told the Philadelphia Bar Association Friday to "see to it that the rights of privacy are respected by government."

Ervin, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Constitu-

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tional Rights, told the association's quarterly membership meeting at the Bellevue Stratford that the computer had made it possible to obtain and store information on citizens which "pose a basic threat to the right of privacy."

He said concern about the Army prying into civilian affairs had been expressed throughout the country but there were others equally guilty of invading individual privacy, including the FBI, credit bureaus, insurance companies and employees.

Much of this information, he said, is collected by unskilled persons, is inaccurate and incomplete. Yet it goes into the computer files to be resurrected later to do untold harm to an individual and there is no way for the individual to prevent it.

Ervin said the Army unfortunately was given during the civil strife of the 1960s a duty which should never have been ordered — the task of spying on American citizens who were exercising their First Amendment freedoms.